

Notice of Allowability

Applicant(s)

09/857,628

Examiner

Michael La Villa

Applicant(s)

UMINO ET AL.

Art Unit

1775

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 29 November 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 4, 6 and 8.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

LaVilla 12/17/04

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
2. In view of applicant's amendments and arguments, the rejections of the Office Action mailed on 27 July 2004 are withdrawn, and Claims 1, 4, 6, and 8 are allowed.
3. The section 112, first paragraph rejection of the Office Action mailed on 27 July 2004, with respect to the written description requirement and single treatment step application to form the intermediate and resin layer, is withdrawn. The teachings in the Specification at page 11, line 22 through page 12, line 8, page 15, lines 5-10, and the Examples, read in conjunction with the originally filed claim 5, provide support for the invention as now claimed. As originally envisaged, the claimed invention does not require single treatment step application to form the intermediate and resin layers.
4. The section 103 rejection over Nagashima of the Office Action mailed on 27 July 2004 is withdrawn. Nagashima's examples, relied upon in the rejection, do not explicitly teach forming laminates having three or more acid salts of the claimed cations and anions. Treating liquid E of Nagashima, used in Example 6, would be expected to result in one of the claimed acid salts in the resulting laminate. Treating liquids B, C, and D, used in Examples 3-5, would not be expected to result in laminates having any of the claimed acid salts. Hence, the obviousness of the claimed invention in view of the teachings of Nagashima cannot be sustained.

5. Claims 1, 4, 6, and 8 are allowed.
6. None of the reviewed prior art nor the prior art of record teaches or suggests the claimed invention. Particularly, the claimed subject matter, pertaining to the intermediate layer and resin layer structure in combination with the other claimed limitations, is not taught or suggested.
7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONCLUSION

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael La Villa whose telephone number is (571) 272-1539. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday, Thursday, and alternating Fridays.
9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Jones can be reached on (571) 272-1535. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael La Villa
17 December 2004

